



LARC



Volume 61, Number 03

ACADIANA AMATEUR RADIO ASSOC., INC. - a 501(c)3 Corporation March 2021

Baby, It's Cold Outside – and inside too.

Louisiana got an Arctic Blast about the middle of February. The temperature dropped down, and because of all the rain we had ahead of it, everything froze up. Drizzling rains and cold temperatures do not make a good combination. The antennas on the Chase Building collected some ice on them, causing the SWR to go bonkers. (I would too if I had to stand out in that mess for a few days.) Luckily it was just ice buildup. It was cold out and everybody got a snow day.

Unfortunately, because of the weather several areas of Lafayette lost power for a while and water. Since a lot of people had left their faucets dripping as not to freeze, water pressure dropped around town and some areas had a “boil advisory” for a couple of days.

Texas and Oklahoma weren’t quite so lucky from this storm. I believe the news reported at one point that 4 Million people were without power in Texas for a few days. Oklahoma had power outages as well. But it was mostly fixed and everything started to get back to normal considering.

A friend of mine who lives in north Texas had the pipes INSIDE his house freeze and break. The family had went to stay with relatives near Shreveport after the power went out. They got back to their house to find it flooded. Went the power came back on, the water systems started pumping water to fill up everything and broken pipes don’t hold a lot of water. Insurance companies are still having a fit with Louisiana and now they got Texas and Oklahoma to deal with.

We have all been lucky. We mostly know how to prepare to almost any situation. We know how to repair things or who to get in touch with to help. And mostly we are resourceful.

WE ARE HAMS.

Joseph “Moe” Meaux K2JDM

March 04, 2021
1300 Bertrand Drive Lafayette, LA

VE Testing TBD w5ddl.org

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By the

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Lafayette, LA 70505-1174

DATES TO REMEMBER

GENERAL MEETING

March 04, 2021 @ 7:00 PM

1300 Bertrand Drive

Lafayette, LA

<http://www/w5ddl.org/clubsuite/>

Local 2-Meter Nets

Monday

AARA Monday Night Net 8:00 PM
146.820 MHz W5DDL Lafayette, LA

Tuesday

Region 4 SkyWarn Net 7:00 PM
145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA

Wednesday

Silent Key Memorial Net 7:00 PM
146.820 PL 103.5 New Iberia, LA

AARA OFFICERS 2021 - 2022

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March 2021



VE Test Session

February 4, 2021

We had another pretty good night with 7 New Techs and 1 new Amateur Extra.

The new Techs are: Gregory P. Ducharm ~ KI5NTA ~ of Duson, Mark Rabalais ~ KI5NTB ~ of Breaux Bridge, Larry W. Kebodeaux ~ KI5NTC ~ of Egan, David DesOrmeaux ~ KI5NTD ~ of Lafayette, Stanley Lee ~ KI5NTF ~ of Opelousas, David Sonnier ~ KI5NTG ~ of Broussard & Charles S. Hustler Huntsville AK.

The lonely upgrade to Amateur Extra was Bradford K. Crozier ~ KI5NFB ~ of Crowley.

Great big TNX to the VEs that assisted, Greg ~ K5LFT, Galen ~KF5BET, Ric ~ KE5KEL, Dave ~ N4ELM & Ray ~ N5KIR. Also congratulations to all that passed their tests.



73, de Greg ~ K5LFT

ARES Volunteers Respond to Severe Weather

Weather gone wild might be an apt description of the conditions in many parts of the US, with sub-freezing temperatures, snow, and ice in areas not prepared for those sorts of things. Aberrant weather is happening across many US regions, causing power and telecommunication outages. The National Weather Service (NWS) advised at mid-week, "Over 100 million Americans are under Winter Storm Warnings, Winter Storm Watches, or Winter Weather Advisories as another round of impactful winter weather tracks from the Southern Plains to the East Coast," adding that a developing winter storm is expected to produce heavy snow and treacherous ice accumulations from the South Central US to the Mid-Atlantic.

ARRL Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) volunteers in southern Texas have been called up by served agencies to help fill the resulting communication gap. ARRL Emergency Response Director Paul Gilbert, KE5ZW, who lives in the Austin, Texas, area, reports that ARES members "have been very, very, very busy" with storm-related traffic. "The Williamson County ARES team has been activated by the Williamson County Emergency Manager," he reported earlier in the week.

A net to address power outages, vehicle accidents, health and welfare, power outages, and weather updates was running around the clock. Two repeaters in Gilbert's area are down due to power and generator outages, he said. Electrical power in his area has been up and down, but his cell service has mostly been working.

Gilbert reported 4 - 8 inches of snow on the ground and "lots of ice," with temperatures dipping into record-setting single digits. "The roads are very treacherous, and emergency services have not been able to respond to all calls as a result," he said.

Volunteers with Williamson County ARES (Wilco ARES) were able to help one ham who had no heat, a car out of gas, and 18° F in the house to find shelter for him and his dog.

The ARES net is tracking the rolling blackouts as the local provider grid becomes overwhelmed by increased demand. "Some water shortages were reported, as pumping stations failed from lack of power," he said.

Elsewhere, North Texas SEC Greg Evans, K5GTX, reported that the Grayson County ARES team has activated to staff warming shelters, and the emergency operations center (EOC) in Hill County was activated on February 15.

New Mexico Section Emergency Coordinator Jay Miller, W5WHN, reports that southeastern New Mexico is experiencing rolling power blackouts due to high demand. "The stations checking in via HF and repeaters are having frozen water pipe problems," Miller said. "Most of the New Mexico ARES stations have backup power."

Miller said the rest of New Mexico is digging out of three storms' worth of snow accompanied by frigid temperatures and impassable roads, especially in the mountains.

Jim Tucker, KB0QNW, reported from southeast New Mexico, "We continue to experience rolling blackouts. I continue to monitor local and regional repeaters and systems, as well as the 7290 Traffic Net, should any need arise. I [passed] a message from Bowie, Texas, to Clovis, New Mexico." Read an [expanded version](#).

ARRL Learning Network Webinars

Visit the [ARRL Learning Network](#)(a members-only benefit) to register, check on upcoming webinars, and to view previously recorded sessions.

Talking to Astronauts: An Elementary School's Exciting ARISS Experience -- Diane Warner, KE8HLD

This is a story about Tallmadge Elementary School's participation in a once-in-a-lifetime Amateur Radio on the International Space Station (ARISS) school contact. The excitement of the entire experience was shared not just by the students, but included faculty, parents, the community, and local amateur radio operators. You will also learn how to begin the process of submitting your own ARISS contact proposal.

Tuesday, March 2, 2021 @ 1 PM EST (1800 UTC)

Technicians: Life Beyond Repeaters -- Anthony Luscre, K8ZT

This presentation takes a new look at the possibilities available to Technician-class operators beyond repeaters. Explore Tech HF and 6-meter privileges for SSB, CW, and digital modes such as FT8, RTTY, and PSK31 to expand your operating modes and your station's outreach. Explore other VHF/UHF uses, including SSB, satellites, FM simplex, digital modes, contesting, and more.

Tuesday, March 9, 2021 @ 1 PM EST (1800 UTC)

The Art and Science of Operating Ultra-Portable -- Mike Molina, KN6EZE

Whether for SOTA, POTA, backcountry survival, or just spending time in nature, learning how to operate ultra-portable is a fun and rewarding experience. In this presentation, Mike, KN6EZE, will cover the basics of ultra-portable operating for both the new and experienced ham radio operator.

Tuesday, April 6, 2021 @ 8 PM EDT (0000 UTC on Friday, April 7)

The ARRL Learning Network schedule is subject to change.

ARRL Board Considers Plan to Cover New \$35 FCC Fee for Some Young Applicants

At its Annual Meeting in January, the ARRL Board of Directors considered a motion to offer a new service that would pay the new but not-yet-implemented \$35 FCC application fee for a limited number of new radio amateurs younger than age 18 who, at the time of testing, belonged to an ARRL-affiliated 501(c)(3) charitable organization and passed their tests through an ARRL VEC-sponsored exam session. The proposal called for reducing the VEC fee for these candidates to \$5. The initial proposal came from ARRL Southeastern Division Director Mickey Baker, N4MB. Other Board members offered subsidiary motions. Supporters said the purpose behind the motion was to ameliorate the potential financial hardship the pending FCC application fee posed on certain minors applying for their first license, and to encourage new youth membership.

Consideration of the motion, which was subject to considerable discussion, was deferred to an ad hoc committee composed of the members of the Administration & Finance Committee, two Members of the Programs & Services Committee, and ARRL CEO David Minster, NA2AA (or his designated representative). The Board directed the panel to review and more fully develop the proposal and report back to the Board by the end of March with a recommendation as to whether

Article: Ham Radio Forms a Planet-Sized Space Weather Sensor Network

The article "Ham Radio Forms a Planet-Sized Space Weather Sensor Network," which appeared on February 9 in Eos, Earth & Space Science News, sprang from a project by the Ham Radio Science Citizen Investigation ([HamSCI](#)), founded by Nathaniel Frissell, W2NAF, of the University of Scranton, one of the paper's authors. The other authors are Kristina Collins, KD8OXT, who led the project, and David Kazdan, AD8Y, both of Case Western Reserve University (W8EDU). The article posits that, with their experience dealing with ionosphere-influenced propagation, radio amateurs have an empirical knowledge of space weather and offer a ready-made volunteer science community.

The article covers the methods and research being used to monitor the effects of solar activity on Earth's atmosphere, telecommunications, and electrical utilities -- and the valuable data being crowdsourced from amateur radio signals.

"To fully understand variability on small spatial scales and short timescales, the scientific community will require vastly larger and denser sensing networks that collect data on continental and global scales," the article asserts. "With open-source instrumentation cheaper and more plentiful than ever before, the time is ripe for amateur scientists to take distributed measurements of the ionosphere -- and the amateur radio community is up for the challenge."

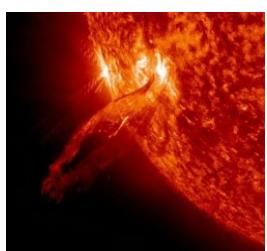
"The reach of these crowdsourced systems, and the support of the amateur community, offers tremendous opportunities for scientific measurements," the article notes.

The research acknowledges a handful of HamSCI collaborators -- from organizations and universities -- and is supported by National Science Foundation grants. HamSCI's Personal Space Weather Station initiative aims to develop a network of specially equipped amateur stations that will allow amateurs to collect useful data for space science researchers. Ham radio operators and researchers, through HamSCI, are designing hardware for a distributed network of personal space weather stations, the article explains.

The 2021 HamSCI virtual workshop will take place March 19 - 20. Read [an expanded version](#).

A "Perfect Coronal Mass Ejection" Could Be a Nightmare

From ARRL.org newsletter February 11, 2021



A new study in the research journal Space Weather considers what might happen if a worst-case coronal mass ejection (CME) hit Earth -- a "perfect solar storm," if you will.

In 2014, Bruce Tsurutani of Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) and Gurbax Lakhina of the Indian Institute of Geomagnetism introduced the "perfect CME." It could create a magnetic storm with intensity up to the saturation limit, a value greater than the Carrington Event of 1859, the researchers said. The interplanetary shock would arrive at Earth within about 12 hours, the shock impingement onto the magnetosphere would create a sudden impulse of around 234 nanoteslas (nT), and the magnetic pulse duration in the magnetosphere would be about 22 seconds. Orbiting satellites would be exposed to "extreme levels of flare and interplanetary CME (ICME) shock-accelerated particle radiation," they said. The event would follow an initial CME that would "clear the path in front of it, allowing the storm cloud to hit Earth with maximum force."

The CME's 12-hour travel time would allow little margin for preparation. The CME would hit Earth's magnetosphere at 45 times the local speed of sound, and the resulting geomagnetic storm could be as much as twice as strong as the Carrington Event. Power grids, GPS, and other services could experience significant outages. Read [expanded version](#).



Jude Trahant N5NGC - Silent Key

Jude Trahant N5NGC age 81, became a Silent Key on January 27, 2021.

A loving husband, father, brother, uncle, grandfather, great-grandfather, and dear friend to many. Jude was born in New Orleans, LA and was a resident of Kenner, LA. He attended St. Anthony, graduated from Jesuit High School in 1958, and attended LSUNO. He was a very loving big hearted man who could make friends easily with his outgoing personality. He was a licensed amateur radio operator (N5NGC) who enjoyed talking to his friends and people around the world and attending many of the Louisiana ham-fests. Jude enjoyed spending time with his wife, Sarah, traveling around the world seeing sites they both enjoyed. Jude was preceded in death by his parents, Harvey and Nellie Trahant, and his niece, Christen.

Jude will be missed by all who knew him.

Garden of Memories Funeral Home and Cemetery

<https://www.gardenofmemoriesmetairie.com/tributes/Jude-Trahant>



Raymond "Ray" Reed Sr., KF5ZUN

Raymond "Ray" Reed, Sr., 78, of Bridge City, passed away on February 22, 2021, in Port Arthur.

A visitation will be held from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Saturday, February 27, 2021, at Claybar Funeral Home in Orange.

A graveside service will be held at 12:45 p.m., on Monday, March 8, 2021, at Houston National Cemetery in Houston.

Born in North Island, California, on February 18, 1943, he was the son of Clyde Reed and Dollie (Butts) Reed. Ray served bravely in the Navy as an Aviation Mechanic during the Vietnam War. He was an active member of the Jefferson County and Orange County HAM Radio Club. Ray will be deeply missed by all those who came to know and love him.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Clyde and Dollie Reed.

He is survived by his loving wife, Annette (Bifolco) Reed; sons, Raymond Reed, Jr., and Kenny Reed; grandchildren, Trevor Reed, Channing Reed, Jacquesnn Reed, Raycee Reed, and Kelsie Reed.

Serving as honorary pallbearers will be Trevor Reed, Channing Reed, Brandon Broussard, James Gillen, Terry Hobbs, and Ronald Pate.

Local 2-Meter Nets**MONDAY**

*AARA Monday Night Net 8:00 PM
146.820 -0.600 PL 103.50
W5DDL repeater*

WEDNESDAY

*Silent Key Memorial Net 6:30 PM
146.820 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA*

**TUESDAY**

*Region 4 Skywarn Net 7:00 PM
147.040 MHz + 0.600 PL 103.5 W5EXI
Duson, LA*

THURSDAY

*Rag Chew Net 8:00 PM
443.000 MHz + 5.000 PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA*

AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net

Net Controllers will rotate each week and held on the 146.820 W5DDL Repeater only.

The AARA Monday Night Net will be held at 8:00 PM on **146.820 -0.600 PL 103.50 W6EXI repeater**

The March 2021 schedule can be downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website. [Net Schedules](#)

REGION 4 SKYWARN NET

Each Tuesday night at 7:00 PM (local), the Region 4 Skywarn Net will take place on the 145.370 Skywarn Repeater in Lafayette, LA. Net Control Operators will alternate each week.

In case the 147.040 MHZ W5EXI repeater fails, the net will be held on the 146.820 W5DDL repeater PL Tone 103.5.

The March 2021 schedule can be found at this link: [Net Schedules](#)

See our website for additional information: <http://www.w5ddl.org/repeaters.htm>



Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing names to be missing from the list.

02-03	N5NVP	Jim
02-04	KB5WI	Weston
02-04	KA5QME	Ann
02-04	WA5TAQ	Glynn
02-15	K5ZRA	Greg
02-16	KD5NVC	Glenn
02-18	AF5VR	Steve
02-20	KG5SIS	Cheryl
02-24	KD5JSM	Danny
02-25	K1SIHY	Kisha
02-27	W5RZY	Rose
03-12	KM6WSY	Mary
03-13	K5NCA	Bill
03-16	KK6EWB	Ingo
03-16	KIIZAR	Tanya

Don't forget to renew your membership by January 31st.

Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.
P. O. Box 51174
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174
Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



*Share the Fun ~
Bring a Friend
to be a HAM.*

UPCOMING EVENTS

VE Testing 6:00 PM
General Meeting 7:00 PM

First Thursday each Month
First Thursday each Month

1300 Bertrand Drive Lafayette, LA
1300 Bertrand Drive Lafayette, LA

For any additional information, check the W5DDL.org website

NO-BAKE PEANUT BUTTER BARS

2 stick salted butter, softened	1 Cup Chunky Peanut Butter
2 Cups Powered Sugar	12-oz vanilla wafers
12-oz mini semisweet chocolate chips	

Grease 9-by-13 pan with some butter (not what is used for recipe). Use electric hand mixer to mix softened butter and peanut butter until smooth. Stir in sugar one cup at a time.

Process vanilla wafers in a food processor (or mash in zip lock bag) until crumbs. Add crumbs and chocolate chips to peanut butter mixture. Spread it evenly into the buttered pan and set aside.

FROSTING:

2 Cups semisweet chocolate chips	½ Cup creamy peanut butter
½ Cup chopped peanut – if desired.	

Use double-boiler or microwave, melt chocolate chips and creamy peanut butter. Allow to cool for a couple of minutes, then pour over the base. Spread frosting evenly and sprinkle with chopped peanuts. Refrigerate at least 1 hour, then cut into 20 bars. (Trust me. One bar is a sugar rush.)

FCC Information Service

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 1-888-225-5322 This will connect you to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:

ulscomm@fcc.gov.

FCC Website:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is:

*Federal Communications Commission,
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554*